

## Universal Service Fund Council Meeting Minutes

### Open Meeting Agenda for Monday, December 13, 2021 10 a.m.

1. **Call to Order 10:00 AM**, Jim Jermain

Council members present: Jim Jermain, AT&T, Council Chairperson; Pam Holmes, Captel, Director of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs; David Byers, Upper Midwest Wireless, Chief Operating Officer; Janet Zander, Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Advocacy and Public Policy Coordinator; Ted Hankins, CenturyLink, Council Vice Chairperson; Nicole Mauritz, TDS Telecom, Compliance Manager; Terri Hatchell (representing Adam Raschka), Charter Communications, Government Affairs; David Mortimer, Hospital Sisters Health System, Director of Government Grants; John Van Ooyen, Mt. Horeb Telephone Company; Michelle Ahlman, Clear Sounds Communications, Business Community; Scott Bohler, Frontier Communication; Michelle Reinen, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection;

Commission staff present: Tara Kiley, Alyssa Kenney, Billy Mauldin, Laura Fay, Dennis Klaila, Rita Hargot, Jenna Schmidt, Kathy Endres, Peter Jahn

2. **Approval of Minutes of August 6, 2021** motion by Janet Zander to approve the minutes and a second by Scott Bohler - minutes approved

3. **Council Member Exchange**

a. **Alyssa Kenney to provide opportunity for future meetings**

4. **Rules 1-AC-251** Alyssa Kenney provided update: aligns Wisconsin Admin. Code ch. PSC 160 with FCC federal standards by incorporating Lifeline National Eligibility Verifier process to determine Lifeline eligibility and language revisions to include inclusive language. Rule recalled, Commission in the process of review.
5. **Universal Service Fund fiscal audit and updates** Jenna Schmidt provided update: Baker Tilly performed audit in place of the Legislative Audit Bureau, plan to transition to yearly audit. Financial statements are represented, no reportable findings identified/no deficiencies. Increased in assessments overall, decrease in amount of accessible revenue.
6. **Telemedicine Grant Program update and budget plan** Dennis Klaila provided update: Applications due February 10, 2022 for next round of grants that will be filled out and submitted online. Two budget years awarded at once for 2022/2023. 2023 Motion by David Mortimer to approve 2023 fiscal year budget round of \$500,000 for the upcoming budget and a second by Ted Hankins – motion approved
7. **Universal Service Fund Commission updates** Alyssa Kenney provided update: reorganization to a bureau to allow a federal grant team. Affordable Connectivity rolling out in 2022 and Non-Profit grant Program experienced an unusual number of extensions until February of 2022. New round of grants opening December 15, 2021 through the new EGrant System. Billy Mauldin provided TEPP update: 530 vouchers but decline overall, final version of new TEPP logo. Pete Jahn provided a Lifeline update: FCC phasing out support for voice services, but still providing some support – State USF will reimburse providers. Tara Kiley provided an update on the EGrant

system: All applications managed in the system, required fields, controlled ending deadline, reporting and close out of grants

8. **Adjournment** motion by David Byers and second by Ted Hankins, meeting adjourned 11:30 a.m.